



Beta chapter suspended amid hazing, drug and alcohol accusations

By JOANNA LAMSTEIN

The Beta Theta Pi campus chapter was suspended during the summer due to charges of under-age drinking, marijuana use and hazing. The fraternity was put on probation years before the suspension, starting with a hazing violation a few years ago and continuing with under-age drinking cases and accusations of drug use. “It wasn’t any one thing, honestly. Ultimately what it came down to was lack of internal culpability,”

Moe Stephens, Assistant Director of Student Activities for Greek Life and Leadership, said. “The actions of some members of Beta Theta Phi were inconsistent with the values of [the fraternity].” Tom Crawford, former Beta Risk Manager, said, “I would say every Greek house has under-age drinking.” Crawford does not believe shutting down the chapter would help prevent under-age drinking. “It’s not a culture of prevention, just covering it up,” he said. “The chapter was given several opportunities to change [its] cul-

ture... but were either unwilling or unable,” Stephens said, adding that it was the Beta Theta Pi headquarters that suspended the fraternity with school supporting the decision. Crawford claims the school gave headquarters an ultimatum in order to get Beta suspended. The members of Beta interviewed felt that the school did a poor job of informing Beta executives of what was happening, particularly in the case of housing placement for the men who had planned to live in the Beta house this year. Members felt that school officials were not up-

front about the fate of Beta when they could have been, and that they had been given false hope during discussions about it. There also appeared to be a miscommunication regarding the requirements of keeping the chapter alive. According to Stephens, one requirement for Beta to remain at the university this year was for the house to reach full capacity plus to have two other members elsewhere on campus. Crawford said that they believed that requirement

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Developer submits plans for Tacoma Wal-Mart

By MIKE KNAPE

Thanks to a previously overlooked legal technicality, Wal-Mart may be coming to town after all. A California-based developer has submitted plans to build a 150,000 square-foot Wal-Mart supercenter on Union Ave. next door to Target, where the Tacoma Elks Lodge is currently located. Although the Tacoma City Council passed a 6-month moratorium on all big-box retailers on Aug. 30, it did not take effect until it was printed and publicized in accordance with Washington state law. The developer submitted plans for the Wal-Mart on Aug. 31, the day before the moratorium was publically released, so it is unclear whether the moratorium applies to the development of Wal-Mart. When this issue of The Trail went to print, a legal decision regarding the moratorium’s application to the proposed Wal-Mart had not been reached. The City Council cited concerns over the effect of big-box development on community businesses and traffic concerns in their decision to pass the moratorium. The Central Neighborhood of Tacoma (CNC) has been one of the most vocal groups in opposition. “This is about protecting the businesses already established who are struggling day in and day out to keep their doors open and adding this development will do nothing but drown the market diversity in our neighborhood,” CNC Secretary Justin Leighton said in a Sept. 2 press release. “A large single-purpose retail store with surface parking will not benefit the neighborhood.” The larger debate on the effect of giant retail stores like Wal-Mart has found its way into classrooms on campus. IPE Professor Emelie Peine, who studied the issue during her time in graduate school at Cornell University in New York, incorporates the subject into her IPE 201 curriculum. “One of the big critiques is that

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ASUPS disbands Christian Fellowship

By PHILLIP BRENFLECK

After a decision made by ASUPS last semester to disband the campus’ Christian faith-based student group, the Puget Sound chapter of the Christian Fellowship is no longer recognized as an official student organization. Puget Sound is well known for being a community inclusive to students of all faiths and religious backgrounds, so ASUPS’ decision has come as a bit of a surprise to some members of the campus community, even sparking controversy.

Former Fellowship co-presidents Chloe Hunt and Tracy Wormwood say complaints from a number of campus community members brought the organization to ASUPS’ attention. Unsanctioned campus events as well as a controversial policy in the club constitution stating that Fellowship leaders are elected based on “biblical principle” contributed to ASUPS’

ultimate decision to disband the club. ASUPS’ primary concern with this portion of their constitution, Hunt said, is that it is open to broad interpretation and therefore holds the potential for discrimination. As an example, Hunt said that if a member of a different religious faith joined the Christian Fellowship and ran for office but was not

elected, it could be construed as discrimination against that particular student’s religious beliefs. Because of the nature of this topic, the Puget Sound Christian Fellowship no longer enjoys the same privileges and opportunities afforded to other student groups on campus. According to Dave Wright, University Chaplain and Director of Spirituality and Justice, confidentiality policies and a respect towards the students involved prohibit the specific circumstances of the events that brought the Christian Fellowship’s constitution to the attention of ASUPS from being discussed in this article. Some students have suggested that an open discussion of these issues could help to clear the air about the Fellowship and reconcile differences within the campus community. Unfortunately, the club’s constitution is not the only obstacle the group faces towards regaining an official presence on campus. Rumors still circulate about the spe-

cific circumstances that led to the group’s disbanding, and members feel this is just as much of an obstacle to regaining official status as the controversy over the policy. “Come to a meeting. See what we’re about. Ask someone personally, like a leader, and see what it’s about. Rumors don’t do anything but build up more animosity,” Hunt said. She and Wormwood both encourage any and all to participate in the Fellowship, stressing that the diversity of the student body and the many faiths of Puget Sound students invigorate discussions on faith. However, the Christian Fellowship is anything but gone from the campus scene. Members still regularly meet to read scripture, discuss issues of faith and get to know one another. Despite this, members remain frustrated. Without the rights and privileges granted to officially recognized clubs, the Fellowship was unable to table at Log-Jam and feel that their compara-

tively quiet presence on campus has made it difficult for new students to join in on their activities. “The most frustrating thing is that people who are looking for a Christian community ... may not know we exist,” Hunt said. The group is currently working with ASUPS to revise their constitution and pursue official recognition on campus. Long-time member Vanessa Corwin said that despite the issues raised, the community the club offers members has strongly shaped her college experience at Puget Sound, and she hopes that this community will be open to future generations of students. “It’s really hard as a Christian going into a school as a freshman and trying to find friends with the same values or beliefs,” Corwin said. “[The Christian Fellowship] really helped me to feel like I didn’t have to change my values or my thinking to feel like I belonged at this campus.”

Sailing budget stirs controversy

By JOHN DERKSEN

At the close of last semester, the ASUPS Budget Committee convened in an emergency meeting to reconsider allocating \$14,000 to the Sailing Club for new racing boats. The decision stirred controversy due to the sheer dollar amount of the investment, which is expected to benefit the 40-member club at a competitive level for the next eight years. The request passed both times it was presented to the Senate but was met with some opposition by both senators and students who joined the meeting to express their dissent. ASUPS Club Sports funding has always been a difficult issue, as the money is the lifeblood of a variety of clubs that hope to use it to cover equipment, travel costs and league dues. Each year, the Budget Committee is charged with the task of

allocating the Club Sports funds, with the goal of meeting the needs of as many students as possible. For many clubs, the funding only partially covers the cost of operating, and members must raise additional funds themselves or face increasing membership fees. Through a somewhat complicated process, clubs apply to gain funding from either the finance budget, used for year-to-year costs such as travel and league dues, or the capital budget, spent on long-term physical investments such as uniforms or equipment. Currently, the Men’s Lacrosse Club is seeking ASUPS funding to the tune of \$6,400, which will cover their league dues for the next three years. The team’s league, MCLA, has put them on probation until they are able to pay the future dues. The club, which typically has a 25-man roster, competes through the MCLA to play schools like Gonza-

ga and Willamette. If the team is dropped from the league, they will be forced to play at an intramural level, if at all. The club continues to pursue outside fundraising to augment their membership fees and ASUPS funding. “It would be great if we got the money, but if we don’t, I know that it will be used to benefit students in other clubs,” Brendan Witt, Men’s Lacrosse Club captain and ASUPS senator, said. “I think the system works to give everyone what it can.” The Budget Committee considers club funding at weekly meetings before making final decisions on allocations near the end of the semester. Students are welcome to attend Senate meetings on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Murray Boardroom (Wheelock 106) where they can listen, contribute their opinions and show support for their chosen clubs.

WAL-MART

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Wal-Mart takes business away from local businesses and effects local labor markets. There has been a lot of economic research on the subject and it is kind of inconclusive,” Peine said. Peine was quick to mention that large retailers like Wal-Mart also bring benefits to consumers through their generally low prices. “As an academic institution that teaches students to think critically, it is our responsibility to do that here as well and to think about what it means to have Wal-Mart as a member of the community. For a lot of people, that means cost-savings,” Peine said. Annie Bigalke, ’11, former president of Students for a Sustainable Campus (SSC), critiqued the anonymity and health issues attached to Wal-Mart style retailing.

“Students should definitely care. This is something that will directly impact students. Historically, Wal-Mart has ruined a lot of local economies,” Bigalke said. “Tacoma has made a lot of progress recently as a community and it seems like this would be taking steps backward.” Perhaps due to lack of publicity, no campus organizations have issued statements on this polarizing community issue. The ASUPS executive administration declined to comment and the Office of Community Engagement did not respond to an interview request. It would be some time until Puget Sound students are shopping at Wal-Mart. Stores of the proposed size generally take around 18 months to open, according to Kathleen Cooper of the Tacoma News Tribune. Meanwhile, the city awaits the city’s verdict on the moratorium.

Meeting our Freshman: The class of 2015

The freshman profile may not set or break trends from previous classes, but according to Director of Admissions Fumio Sugihara, this does not mean they are not exceptional.



Information compiled by Kristie Dutra

SECURITY REPORT

The following incidents occurred on-campus and were reported to Security Services since Sept. 12:

- Security took reports from four separate students about their bicycles being stolen from campus.
- A student contacted Security to

report her vehicle was vandalized and several bottles of prescription medicine were taken while it was parked in the Fieldhouse lot.

- A faculty member reported profanity written on the dry erase board on her office door in McIntyre. The incident was reported to the university’s Chief

Diversity Officer

- A student reported several articles of clothing stolen from the laundry room in her residence hall.
- A student reported his Ford F150 pick-up stolen from Theme Row.

Courtesy of Todd Badham

BETA

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was for the next academic year, and this year, they needed to have all those who intended to remain active members of Beta live in the house. The members of the chapter believed that if the chapter was suspended, the housing contracts would be void. However, because members were informed of the suspension of the chapter three weeks into the summer, men who had signed housing contracts with plans to live in the house were held by the contract and forced to find other campus housing. “Everyone in Beta felt that we were signing that conditional contract,” Brian Becker, Beta President during the 2009-2010 school year, said. “We all thought, ‘No Beta, no contract.’ I contacted the school administrators ... and asked if ... they knew that we thought it was conditional, but we were told that they were sorry that it came across but that wasn’t correct.”

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The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. The Trail acts as an archival record for the university, serves as a link between Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.

Hosting Mormon camps reflects poorly on ‘tolerant’ university



PHOTO COURTESY / WIKIPEDIA / PD-US
Intolerance: Mormon doctrines contradict Logger liberty.

By JOHNSTON HILL

For the past several summers, the Church of Latter Day Saints has sponsored summer camps for children (known as Especially For Youth or EFY camps) on the Puget Sound campus, leasing facilities and purchasing services from the university. These camps could not be more closely affiliated with the Church, abiding by Brigham Young University’s code of conduct and immodestly projecting Mormon values. This is poor reflection on the University, in that it is complicit in the perpetuation of a morally bankrupt and intolerant institution that actively works against many of the values the university allegedly stands for.

I consider the Church of Latter Day Saints a nefarious institution. The Church has a long, storied his-

tory of bigotry and ethical failings, highlights of which include its refusal to allow black parishioners to become full members of the church until 1978, its continued relegation of women to subservient roles, its ostracism of apostates and its condemnation of homosexuality.

These are not the harmless tenets of a powerless cult. They have real, devastating effects for people the world over, from same-sex couples unable to enjoy fundamental rights in California to the universal expectation that a housewife “abide by the righteous counsel of her husband,” in the words of a former church leader. (Note, however, that none of this is mutually exclusive with the fact that Mormon people are often among the friendliest, most gracious people one could ever meet.)

The question of whether it is appropriate for the university to refuse to lease its facilities to some institutions is straightforward. Very few would take issue with the refusal to serve the Klu Klux Klan; Black Panthers on campus would almost certainly draw ire. The question then becomes “Where should we draw the line? At what point does an institution’s behavior warrant a refusal to serve them?”

While a perfect distinction may be difficult to draw, a standard based on whether an institution willingly and knowingly perpetuates injustice by reasonable standards of morality should be workable (I will leave meta-ethical questions about the objectivity of morality for another day). It then appears clear that the Church of Latter Day Saints fails that test. If this is so, then the university is complicit in injustice, if not abetting it.

This argument is sure to encounter the criticism that it espouses the virtues of non-discrimination and tolerance while advocating for a policy that re-

jects those very virtues. There is no such contradiction.

In the university community one may, without any inconsistency, be tolerant of everything but intolerance. In fact, something to this effect seems to be the university’s espoused position, or so the student handbook and the administration’s intermittent condemnations of hate speech should lead us to believe. While there may be a demand to respect the right of the intolerant to express themselves in a public forum, it does not follow that you must lend your resources to help their cause. The crucial point is that there simply is not an imperative to condone, or be complicit in, wrongdoing, which is exactly the position the University finds itself in.

There are a variety of other objections that might be raised, ranging from the possibility that the University will reform the Church to the fact that the Church pays handsomely for the services rendered. While worthy of discussion, I take it that these criticisms can be rather quickly overcome. In any event, the university must seriously review its business relationships, lest it continue to associate itself with institutions that do so much harm.



PHOTO COURTESY / WIKIPEDIA
Ground Zero: Construction site or hallowed ground?

How soon is too soon?

By ZANE MULLER

The other night, some friends and I indulged in a few beers and a game of Jenga. This being a veteran edition of the game, enough bricks were missing that two were left over once the precarious monolith had been stacked symmetrically. My friend made a joke: he took a brick in each hand, placed one atop the tower like an antenna, and flew the other toward it like an airplane, sound effects included.

I laughed at his joke. All of us did for a second, glancing around at each other to reassure ourselves that we weren’t Bad People. It launched us into a debate – too soon?

Almost certainly, we concluded.

None of us would have made the joke or even laughed at it in polite society, or if anyone in the room had had any unique connection to the attacks. We were all in the same boat – we’d been about ten years old at the time, had all watched the same news footage, had all remained silent at the same moments. Such mockery would have been unthinkable at the time. This realization forced me to consider the disconnect between our society’s appraisal of atrocities and their ‘real’ significance.

While poking fun must wait, the profiteering begins immediately. The September 11th attacks were an unqualified boon for 24-hour

SEE TOO SOON PAGE 4

Teachers fight for their rights

By MEGAN EVANS

Citizens of Tacoma are reacting outspokenly to the teachers’ city-wide strike that has prevented the school year from starting. Those aggressively opposing the strike should be listening to what the teachers have to say, because they are not just on strike for themselves.

The TEA, or Tacoma Education Association, is demanding that the school board allow teachers more involvement in issues regarding teacher transfers and reassignments, class size limits and how the state cuts in funding for teacher pay will be distributed. Teachers are being dismissed by the media and community as selfish and inconsiderate, while the teachers’ complaints themselves are receiving very little media attention.

Related stories in the News Tribune, Tacoma’s local paper, have focused on how the teach-

ers’ actions negatively affect their students and their families. They focus on parents stretching to find somewhere for their kids to stay while they are at work, and the students who missed lunch because they cannot afford three meals a day without the reduced or free meal programs offered through the schools.

A survey conducted by the News Tribune showed that less than 28 percent of the community supported the teachers’ actions. Renee Houston, Professor of Communications at the University of Puget Sound and a member of the community, reflected on the negative depiction of the strike in the media, asking, “What kind of fear propels dedicated professionals with advanced educational degrees to take this step?”

This is a good question. Teachers interact with students five days out of the week, and know some of them better than their parents do.

They knew how their actions would affect the community and especially the students, and yet they decided that their cause was worth the negative side effects. Their points of contention involve policies that could benefit themselves, but also affect the quality of education that students would receive.

If teachers are in control of where they work, they have a better handle on what to expect. Teachers form bonds with students, and make efforts to teach each individual as effectively as possible. If they are moved to an entirely different arena without their consent, it could have a detrimental effect on the students. Then the teacher and students have to get acquainted with new systems, instead of spending time with the material.

Class size is another issue that directly relates to the students. If the teachers cannot possibly provide

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TOO SOON
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cable news networks, American flag manufacturers, the defense industry and country music recording artist Alan Jackson, composer of classic tragedy-hit “Where were you? (When the World Stopped Turning),” a song which actually contains the lyric “I watch CNN but I’m not sure I can tell you/ The difference in Iraq and Iran.”

“United 93,” a film about the flight bound for the White House that passengers wrested from the hijackers, was released in 2006, less than five years after the fact, but its tasteful veracity and determined focus on the closest thing to a triumph on that day protected it from censure. I imagine that the full-blown 9/11 movie is still a few years off.

It’s okay to joke about serfdom in the middle ages, but not slavery in the old South. We laugh at President William Henry Harrison for succumbing to pneumonia following a long-winded State of the Union address, but to mock the assassination of John F. Kennedy is not yet permissible.

There seems to me to be some loose equation for determining when a tragedy no longer demands delicacy and respect, in which the key variables are time, proximity and relevance to the audience. Which is to say that the way we react to tragedy is clearly more about how the event is packaged and presented than what happened; it’s more about us than it.

Sitting on my roommate’s desk is a little chunk of spray-painted concrete in a plastic molded case with the date Oktober 3, 1990 stamped on the bottom. It’s a piece of the Berlin Wall that he purchased while on vacation in the city. It seems likely that one day, a visitor to lower Manhattan will be able to purchase twisted bits of steel and shards of concrete, sealed in plastic, perhaps with a fluttering flag and the words “We Will Never Forget” printed on the casing.

Un-American discourse muddles debate

By SCOTT MILLER

American political discourse is no longer won through strength of argument, but rather by instilling fear—fear of being an outsider, of being abused by the man, or of vague foreign threats. Politicians and pundits turn words into buzzwords and repeat them until their meanings have changed entirely.

Let’s break down a couple of these abused terms. First, “American.” What is an American? Is it not simply someone living in our country? (Ignoring the technicality that anyone from North or South America is American)

Calling something un-American isn’t meant to evoke thoughts like “Oh, you mean foreign?” or even “Hmm, this must conflict with the values and behaviors most common in America.” Instead, it implies “wrong.”

Being un-American in a specific way is worse than being generally so. Socialists want to subvert American capitalism, give everyone a free ride, and let the government control everything. They have “agendas,” which are colloquially “things bad people want to do to hardworking Americans,” rather than “attempts to influence political policy.”

Fear of socialism today reflects the fear of communism during the Cold War, albeit less strongly. The difference is that then, Americans were afraid of a rival super power that happened to be communist (i.e. economically and politically socialist) and therefore were afraid of communism. Now we are afraid of economic socialism, either because of a Cold War-era fear inherited from the previous generation, or because it is different from the free market capitalism many Americans idealize as true freedom. This fear overlooks the partially socialist nature of our country. People who declare themselves anti-socialist

would probably not decline the aid of the police and fire departments or the public school system.

Critics attack campaigns for universal healthcare as a socialist agenda. Labeling a plan as a socialist and tacking “care” on the end of a politician’s name (e.g. Obamacare, Romneycare) uses fear to imply that it’s a plan for healthcare reform that seeks to harm rather than help.

This type of political rhetoric also tells us that our political opponents seek to undermine our morality or control our lives. For conservatives, these social enemies are the progressives who want to run naked in the streets and marry goats. For liberals, the enemies are medieval-minded religious zealots who want to silence free thinkers and take away everyone’s right to make personal choices.

The notion that politicians would want to harm their constituents is ridiculous. Sure, they have an “agenda” to get reelected, but Republicans aren’t out to “get” Democrats or vice-versa.

Making enemies out of political opponents is a great way to beat them in the polls, and there is no strategy more effective than framing them as un-American. Because of these tactics, your modern political adversaries and their constituents aren’t just people who disagree with you—they’re people who hate what you believe and want to change your way of life.

Fear of difference or the unknown makes this tactic effective. But is this really how we want to conduct our politics? The chasm between the political parties is widening, and having a divided country is not in the interest of the common good. How can we get anything done if we’re alienating people whose beliefs balance and complement our own? We can’t. To invoke the un-American argument is anti-American.



Lady Liberty: Partisan conflicts impede American democracy.

STRIKE
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enough time and energy to address the needs of all of their students, then they cannot do their jobs. Perhaps a more accurate statement is the board is not letting them do their jobs.

The state’s cuts in funding for teacher pay is another thing that won’t just affect the teacher’s paycheck. Yes, this is a tough economy, and people from all fields are going to have to take pay cuts. However, it is also true that cutting teachers’ pay is detrimental to the state’s citizenship in the long run. These highly educated people have talents beyond the field

of teaching, and if teaching alone is not going to cover the bills, they will seek work elsewhere. Even just a modicum of control will encourage teachers to stay in the field and fight for a change.

One of the most conspicuous aspects of this particular strike is that it has happened before. In 1978, teachers were striking for almost the exact same things: transfers and reassignments, pay and class size. The News Tribune and community took a similar attitude towards the strikers, but in the end the strikers considered their gains a victory. Hopefully this repeat performance has a similarly happy ending, and does not come around for a third showing.

E-reader boom threatens the printed word

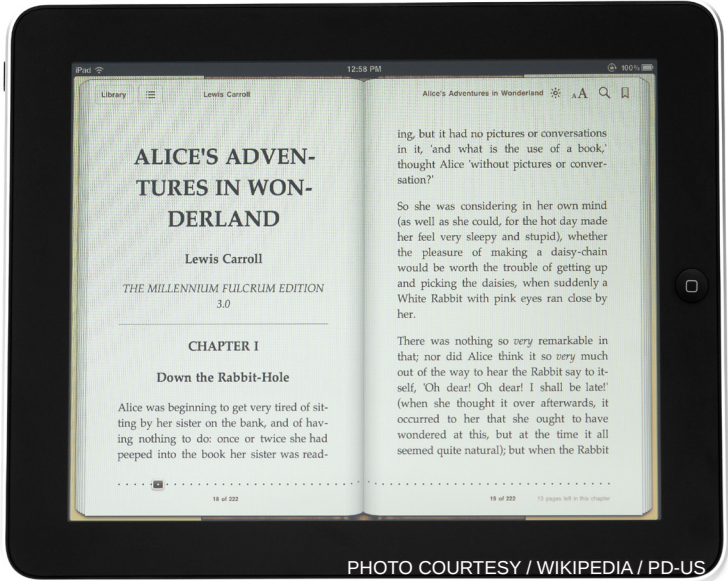


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Off-the-page: Pixelated, literary value is lost in traslation.

By CHELSEA NOACK

For those who appreciate the simple charms of literature in a world of technologic chaos, books provide a safe haven and an opportunity to envelop themselves in ink’s imagination. Our children may never appreciate these facets of literature thanks to electronic readers such as iPads, Kindles and Nooks. In other words, e-book readers are stealing the fundamen-

tal joys from literature made in the printed word.

The Association of American Publishers (AAP) reported that the mass market of adult paperback and hardcover books reached \$1.23 billion in sales for the first six months of 2011, a 25.9 percent decrease from 2010.

In comparison, the e-books have reached an astonishing \$473.8 million in sales during that same time period, a 161.3 percent increase from 2010. Sales of paperbacks and

hardcovers are only decreasing, while those of e-books are rising every month.

It’s not hard to see why there are advantages to e-books. E-books are appealing in so many different aspects. They are the beautiful counterparts to our already technofriendly generation.

Aesthetically, e-book readers such as the Nook, Amazon Kindle and some cell phones have featherweight, sleek features with effort-minimizing touch screens to match. Internally, an e-book reader can hold up to thousands of books that contain audio, pictures, highlighting options and even annotatable margins.

Not only are e-book readers an investment for the amount of money we spend on education (ahem, hefty college textbooks) every year, but they promote sustainability in an obvious sense – their lack of paper. Seems perfect, doesn’t it?

Universities around the United States seem to think so.

Apple released a statement on Yahoo! Finance this past month, announcing that at least 600 school districts in the United States are now launching the use of iPads in high school classrooms.

One must wonder, however, about the reliability of encouraging every high school student to use an iPad in class. Can one really guarantee that students won’t hop onto

Facebook simultaneously?

Maybe they can limit the in-class iPad abuse by setting up Internet boundaries and disabling games like Angry Birds. However, this is a weak rebuttal. Students have found loopholes in the school system for years and could easily make an app to get around the boundaries.

And is the production of hundreds of iPads per school really promoting sustainability, given the resources used to do so?

A walk to the library is still the most eco-friendly way to go when one accounts for iPad production.

Aside from these minor objections, I agree that e-book readers will eventually be of prevalent use in science, math, history, and classes of the like. And they should. They will save money, paper, space and time.

But let’s be clear about something. E-books do not belong in the world of prose and poetry. In fact, the idea is disgraceful.

True book lovers don’t just read a book. We hold a book. We will remember the way it felt. We will remember the way the aged pages smelt when mixed with a spilt cup of coffee. These books are the ones that dance in our hands. These books stand proudly on our shelves with tattered bindings and artistic covers.

We have books that our parents and their parents have passed

down that, upon holding them, place us in their shoes and help us relive their youth.

Aesthetics and sentimentality aside, e-books are distracting. Because they strive to have limitless applications and options, one could easily lessen the mental strain of absorbing a chapter’s dry rhetoric and start another book in a matter of seconds. If one is using an e-book with the Internet, it’s an even worse situation in terms of commitment.

This is in comparison to a printed book that, if one put it down, the abandonment is clear and the guilt even more so.

Additionally, aren’t we all sick and tired of looking at a screen?

The Council for Research Excellence released that an average American spends 8.5 hours a day looking at a screen. It’s not a surprising statistic once you think about it. Computers, phones, televisions, videogames and PowerPoints—all of those things are prevalent in our lives 24/7.

Sure, go ahead and use those e-books in the kljhclassroom. Appreciate the new features that can deepen our understanding about subjects we love most while helping us poor college students save hundreds on textbooks. I’m fine with it.

But leave literature out of the screen, for goodness sake.

The Combat Zone is intended as a satirical work. The views and opinions expressed by the Combat Zone do not necessarily reflect those of the Puget Sound Trail, ASUPS, concerned parties or the University of Puget Sound. Please submit compliments or complaints in the form of letters to the editor.

Hell’s gate opens in Benefactor Plaza

By PEARL KNUCKLESON

The campus community was shocked to discover that the newly renovated Benefactor Plaza is a gateway to hell, unleashing droves of hell-beasts, succubi and damned souls into our reality. While authorities are investigating ways to close the gate, sources have confirmed that freshman hookah circles are to blame for what might be the End of All Days.

“Initially, we thought it was a senior prank, but we were wrong. So terribly, terribly wrong,” one Security officer said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Reports of disturbances around Benefactor Plaza began soon after its completion. An investigation by Security Services yielded no solid evidence other than acknowledgement of a deep feeling of dread around the Plaza and sinister whispers in what was thought to be gibberish, but which were in actuality what Classics professor Barry Virgil determined to be “a corrupted form of Latin used by Lucifer and his horde.”



Hazing: Demons torturing an innocent Phi Delt on Wednesday.

When the gate opened, Benefactor Plaza disappeared in a swirling maelstrom of smoke, maggots, burning flesh and compostable cups. Those who were in the Plaza at the time were enveloped within the festering column of death and

tor Plaza disappeared in a swirling maelstrom of smoke, maggots, burning flesh and compostable cups. Those who were in the Plaza at the time were enveloped within the festering column of death and

damnation. Security has cordoned off access to the gate, as human beings cannot cope with what lies within it on a physical, mental or emotional level.

After the gate opened, a second investigation by occult experts determined that there was a specific set of factors that caused the rupture. One major factor was Benefactor Plaza itself, as its new shape resembles the Greek letter Omega. This acted as a channel for Lucifer to amass the army of Hell beneath, waiting for the proper completion of a satanic ceremony to open the gate.

When six hookah circles set up in Benefactor Plaza with six freshmen in each circle and six iPhones playing MGMT’s hit single “Time to Pretend,” the conditions were perfect for Lucifer to unleash the accumulation of thousands of years of evil back into our world.

The surviving witnesses who re-

tained their ability to speak described the event as “akin to experiencing every nightmare ever had at once, on weapons-grade PCP.”

As of press time, the Gate is still open, with the new Commencement Walk giving way to the swirling vortex of flesh and fire of the gate.

Members of the campus community have had different reactions to the presence of the unholy and damned.

“The University of Puget Sound prides itself on a prejudice-free policy, and I see no reason to start discriminating now,” University spokesperson Megan Buscombe said in a press conference. “Every demographic has something to contribute to the community.”

No questions could be asked about the university’s plans to close the gate, as Buscombe was snatched by a group of winged, goat-footed demons and torn limb from limb.

LETTER FROM A CONCERNED PARENT

Last week, Steve Greenberg, a gay Orthodox rabbi, spoke at the Swope Lecture about the personal battle between his sexuality and his faith. This upset a few parents of students. In the spirit of open debate, the Combat Zone published one of these responses to the Swope Lecture.

Hello,

My name is Joseph Pearlman, a native of Tacoma, and a parent of a UPS student. My oldest son, Adam Pearlman, is a junior at Puget Sound. The other week, a homosexual rabbi, Steve Greenberg, came to campus for a much-publicized lecture. I find this very irresponsible on the part of the university.

I imagine myself to be an open person. I think that people have the right to do whatever they want in the privacy of their own home, so long as they don’t try to brainwash other people or evangelize. So when you bring a man like Greenberg to speak to impressionable youths, you are simply being blind to the consequences

and negative impact of your actions.

My son was in that audience, and ever since then he’s been talking about nothing but the silly ideas he picked up at that lecture (though I don’t doubt the campus climate promotes such thoughts). He keeps talking about, “what’s right for him,” and “the urges he’s always felt,” and that Rabbi Greenberg, “gave him the courage to be open about himself.” My son never kvetched like this before last week.

Thanks to that gay rabbi my own son thinks it’s all right to be a rabbi. A rabbi! Well, it’s not all right. It’s simply wrong.

It’ll start small, with a Torah scroll hidden inside of a copy of Playgirl, but then he’ll start going out on Fridays to walk to the synagogues, instead of dancing at the gay bars like he should be doing at his age. Then he’ll start talking like a rabbi and dressing like one. Just imagine my son with one of those yarmulkes like some stiff-wristed, Manhattan Zionist. And then he’ll start praying on children—brises and bar mitzvahs

and other such horrible acts that Richard Dawkins frowns upon.

The shame that my son has brought me! He could have been a normal gay person: a gay doctor or a gay lawyer, even a gay carpenter for all I cared. But now he has to go and be a gay rabbi. Try telling that at the next dinner party: “No, Adam doesn’t have a hot piece of gentile manmeat...He ‘realized’ he was a rabbi, so he only dates Jewish men...” I’m getting verklempt just thinking about it.

In short, shame on you, University of Puget Sound. This is what I get for \$60,000 a year? My son decides that he’s a rabbi? I know it’s a liberal part of the country, and kids like to experiment and everything, but come on! Don’t be schmucks. Against my better judgment, my daughter just entered Puget Sound as a freshman, and may she be swallowed by a whale before she decides to become a imam or something, after attending one of the university’s abominable lectures.

Regards,
J. Pearlman

Puget Sound Facilities reveals “Green is for Grass” campaign

By DON GLOVER

Last Wednesday, Puget Sound announced its new “Green is for Grass” Campaign. According to the office of public relations, the goal of the campaign is to clarify the school’s sustainability practices amid complaints from student environmental groups.

“Well-maintained lawns mean happier students; that’s just common sense”

—President Thomas

“When we called ourselves a ‘green campus,’ we never meant it in the sense of sustainability,” Facilities Services spokesman Mike Hunter said in an interview. “What we meant was that we have the greenest lawns in

the Northwest, and I’m willing to bet my job on that.”

The campaign began as a response to heavy criticism from the Students for a Sustainable Campus (SSC), an earnest little environmental club that was upset at the ambiguity of the University’s sustainability goals.

“Puget Sound claims to be sustainable, but with no campus-wide composting and gratuitous water usage, we just do not know how they can make that claim,” Wendy Fields, President of the SSC, said.

“Do you remember when all of those trash cans were removed because they were ‘an eyesore’? Now all the students plop their trash on those trays and belt it to the back room. Who knows what unsustainable practices go on back there?”

Mr. Hunter expressed regret that the SSC had spent so much time “trying to make the school

keep a promise it had never even made. That’s the ambiguity of language for you,” he said.

“Oh well, with all the free time they have now, maybe they’ll do the things college kids are supposed to do like drive cars, buy things and cover the entire North End of Tacoma with empty beer cans.”

At the press conference during which President Thomas unveiled the new campaign, he proclaimed that “Green is For Grass” was just the beginning.

“Well-maintained lawns mean happier students; that’s just common sense,” President Thomas said. “The ‘Green is for Grass Campaign’ is the first of many plans...[regarding] sustainability. Look for the ‘Fountain Water at All Costs,’ ‘Let’s Leave Every Light on All Night,’ as well as the ‘Shove the Compost up Your Ass’ campaigns coming to campus in the near future.”

S.U.B. food good

By GILES FERGUSON

There’s something different about the S.U.B. this year, and it’s not just that the information booth is a big, sexy circle.

“The food’s actually good,” junior Chris Baker said between mouthfuls of orange chicken. “And I’m not even that high right now. The freshmen don’t even know how good they’ve got it.”

It’s true. Across campus, students are taking note: the S.U.B. has stepped up its game. The Pac-Rim station in particular has drawn attention due to the extreme nature of its transformation. Once the university’s premier source of gastrointestinal woe, the Asian Station’s offerings have become suddenly edible, even pleasant. But what is the secret behind the sudden rise in quality?

“It’s all about outsourcing,” said a source within Dining and Conference Services (DCS). “We had to face some hard truths in the last few years. We tried cooking in-house. It was a disaster. Now we leave it to the professionals. For a long time, the policy of the S.U.B. was to provide food that would motivate students to eat elsewhere, stimulating Tacoma’s economy. Now, DCS is bringing outside food to the students.”

The Pac-Rim is now entirely supplied by Scary Luck Dragon, a new Chinese food restaurant on S. 54th,

which has garnered rave reviews for its diverse range of traditional dishes. The Scary Luck Dragon is run by a charming immigrant couple, the Wangs.

When asked about the difficulties of feeding a ravenous liberal arts campus, Mr. Wang said he’ll, “never run out of cats in Tacoma,” and assured this writer that kitty elbow and chicken wing are nearly indistinguishable in taste.

In addition, there is talk of outsourcing the burrito line to a small community of illegal immigrants located just outside Kent. Full fare, unable to secure a corporate sponsor, recently announced its decision to continue its line of “scoop-and-plop” cuisine, citing its popularity among glassy-eyed automatons. Meanwhile, the Cellar maintains a commitment to quelling the collective munchies of the campus community.

When asked if the Cellar planned on acquiring a sponsor, management said, “The Cellar is too hardcore for the corporate game.”

“We’re proud of our new, higher standards of quality,” DCS’s Diane Ludwig said. “We hope that with this new selection, it will be several months before students begin pushing the limits of decency in their attempts to create foods other than burritos, chicken strips and sandwiches.” Until then, the residents of Puget Sound will take what they can get.

Life in sexile

With VONNIE KEATSGUTS

Dear Vonnie,

I get sexiled nightly. Being a freshman, I don’t have homework or friends, so I don’t know what to do with the time. I’ve tried wandering around campus, but after completing 20 laps of campus in an hour, I got tired of it. Suggestions?

From,
Lost Frosh

Dear Frosh,

When you’re bored, your exile seems to drag on longer than the Dalai Lama’s. The S.U.B. and the

cafés are closed, you’re too self-conscious to sit alone in the Cellar for hours on end, and Tacoma is...Tacoma. It was quite the co-nundrum for me as well, until I found Stack 9 3/4.

To find this magical stack, go up to the third floor of the library, turn right and right again, into the English literature section. Count the stacks of books. Just before the 10th one on the left, throw yourself as hard as you can into the shelf. You won’t pass through and end up on the way to Hogwarts, but you will hit your head pretty hard. You’ll be passed out for at least two hours. When they finally bring you to consciousness with the smelling salts, it’ll be time to go back to your room! Works for me every time.

Sincerely,
Vonnie K.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The new Center for Health Sciences is the clear centerpiece of this summer’s renovations. Completed within a year of ground breaking, the Center is a tremendous improvement for the campus. With this new facility, the classes, students and faculty of the Psychology, Exercise Science, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy Departments have been relocated from their former homes all over campus and brought together under one roof to help facilitate their interconnected nature.

The steering committee for the Center brought together a diverse collection of members from the Puget Sound community that included consultants from each of the departments involved. The committee went to tremendous lengths to ensure that the building’s design was consistent with the campus as a whole and would not disturb the natural beauty of the university.

Associate Vice President of Facilities Services Bob Kief, a member of the Center for Health Sciences

steering committee, is tremendously proud of all the hard work that went into the Center, especially the effort to make sure Weyerhaeuser Hall is “the right building” for our campus.

Kief stressed the incredible detail put into the plan, which involved maintaining the architectural feel of campus and included the decision to move the footprint of the building back 20 feet to preserve the existing natural environment. The building, he said, serves not only as a wonderful resource for the four departments, but also as a physical presence on campus that benefits the whole community by tying together the north and south ends of the university.

As the community begins to embrace the new addition, Facilities and the steering committee are working hard to incorporate small changes suggested by the faculty to further improve the space as they continue to make it their own. One of the issues that has arisen that has not been as easily rectified is the overwhelming demand for space by the four departments. As a result, some classes

like PSYC 301 (Experimental Methodology and Applied Statistics II) are still overflowing into Wyatt Hall. The building has also left some students on campus whose fields of study are outside of the four departments feeling a little slighted by the university and the Master Plan.

“It’s good that the psych department has a place, but it doesn’t mean much to me as someone who will never take a psych [class]. There are other departments that needed the space too,” junior Kelly Engle said.

Overall, the new Center for Health Sciences has been met with wonderful support from the campus community.

“The building is amazing. It’s absolutely wonderful and a huge improvement on the basements and portables we were in before,” Psychology and English major Rachel Soderstrom said.

When asked about his overall feelings regarding the work done this summer, Kief said, “People always say when we finish a project, that it’s always been there—that’s a compliment.”



F A C E

The changes made to Collins Memorial Library are the perfect embodiment of that goal. This summer has found the library with a brand new entrance, increasing both accessibility to the library and the general aesthetic of the northern side of Karlen Quad. The theme of increased accessibility continues inside with the addition of elevator access to all five levels of the library, including the third and forth floors that were previously only accessible by stairs.

The addition serves to resolve “some of the less visible accessibility issues,” Kim Bobby, Clinical Associate Professor of Education and Chief Diversity Officer here at the University said.

Library Director Jane Carlin added that the new elevator also “improves day to day operations, [and] provides ease of access for our users.”

Overall, the campus community, much of which has noticed that the new renovations include the removal of minor study areas, has found the physical renovations to the library to be all for the better.

Also included in the changes this

summer were some more minor renovations to help the overall aesthetic of the campus, including alterations to the Wheelock Information Center, which “wasn’t as friendly a look,” Kief noted.

“This [new] one is more within the setting, opening up room for people to use the space better,” Kief said.

Other changes included increasing practice space in Schneebeck, adding workout space to the fitness center and increasing campus infrastructure and safety. Kief said that a goal in the renovations was to create a more friendly, more united campus that would welcome the whole university community.

One of the ways this was achieved was the construction of the Commencement Walk. One of the most visible changes on campus since last spring, the granite walkway that spans from one side of campus to the other has attracted quite a bit of attention from the campus community. The addition has become a new center for socialization, encouraging members of the community to ex-

Shelving for the slightly impaired

By CONRAD WHARTON

Your Domestic Dilemma: “My living space has so many walls, and I have so much stuff! What do I do?”

Crafty Connie’s Solution: Shelves. Shelves are great because they allow you to put your aforementioned stuff on your aforementioned walls.

A good shelf, level and properly installed, speaks to your houseguests.

It says, “My host(ess) has excellent taste, fine woodworking skills and many places to display all of his/her wonderful possessions. Perhaps this person is a domestic success!”

Unfortunately, most college students don’t have the time, skills or tools to properly install shelves. Most students also don’t own the places in which they live.

This means most—college students trend towards slapping a shelf on any surface they please in a haphazard fashion with inadequate tools.

Below is a brief list of things to remember when attempting a shelf installation under these conditions.

1. If your landlord is friendly, lives in close proximity and has been amiable towards such requests in the past, it’s a good idea to consult with them before installation.
- If your landlord is an asshole and you didn’t sign a walk-through on your lease, then it’s probably best to just wing it. Telling him in advance

is like using turn signals in your car: polite, sure, but it telegraphs your intentions to the enemy. Best to hope he doesn’t notice when he comes through unannounced on some flimsy premise and that your roommate’s four-foot bong on the coffee table distracts from the horizontal abomination you slapped up next to the stove.

If you still live in the dorms, you can attempt to install anything you want as long as it is held to the wall by non-paint-marring sticky putty. This means your shelf will inevitably fall off three hours later. Take it up with your RA. I would change the ‘Your call’ to some other snarky finish. I’m not exactly sure what is my call...

2. It’s a good idea to assess what tools you have available before you begin a carpentry project.
- There are a few basic tools that will be very helpful in shelf installation.
- First, you need a hammer. A hammer is a tool of subtle correction.
- If the project is proceeding well, or is entirely beyond repair, do not attempt to use a hammer. If you are drunk, these caveats go out the window. Use the hammer as you see fit.
- Second, a drill with the appropriate drill bits to make holes and drive fasteners into things is very useful. If you have a cordless drill, factor in an additional three hours in order to charge the drill batteries.
- Third, you need a level. Levels

let you know when things are level. Shelves are one of these things that should be level. If you are drunk, nothing is level.

Fourth, you may want to use a chopsaw, worm drive saw or radial arm saw in order to cut shelving material to length. If you know what a radial arm saw is, but you don’t own one, you may choose to have some “me time” with the Craftsman catalog before crawling back to that crappy four-inch-blade off-brand worm drive you borrowed from a nearby uncle. If you don’t have any saws at all, try to find shelf material that is the length you want already.

Finally, some people (father figures, actual carpenters, Lowe’s employees) may tell you to use a “stud finder” in order to ensure your shelf bolts into something solid. Don’t listen to these people—they just want you to waste your money. Instead, use the drill to find solid spots.

It’s best to use a small drill bit for the “Swiss cheese” stud finding method. Most studs sit vertically behind the plaster at 6, 9, 17, 24, 30, 38, 40, 44, 45 or 53-inch intervals.

If you don’t have a tape measure, use your imagination. If you are drunk, squinting aids in measurement accuracy.

3. There are a number of sources for shelving material depending on whether you have access to a vehicle and money to spend. Many people in Tacoma leave furniture

SEE SHELVES PAGE 7

Freshman Perspective

By SHELBY WILLIS

It probably felt different for every freshman the first time they stepped onto campus to start the new school year, but soon after everyone had conquered the endless I.D. card line and crammed the contents of their massive suitcase into their new little room, they set off to have a lot of similar experiences.

Whether it was Play Fair, Prelude, Passages, the Urban Plunge or simply trying to find someone to eat with at meals—everyone was in the same boat from there on out. There were “Wow, I’m in college moments,” homesick moments, leaving the room in shower shoes...again moments, and of course, the phone calls to the roommate or security as everyone learned the importance of keeping their key with them at all times.

It’s hard to define or sum up the freshmen orientation experience, but here we go. Whether it was crazy games at Passages or strange things at Play Fair, there was always a group of people (usually wildly dressed) instigating or at least encouraging all the activities.

They were the orientation leaders.

They danced around dressed in bright (or at least strange) clothes/costumes with smiles painted on their faces. Whether or not freshmen liked the games they played, they cannot deny that the group was committed to making them feel welcome and a part of something they should be excited about.

The leaders were crucial because the freshmen were having a lot of interest-

ing new experiences at college.

Among these experiences were learning to live with another person, attempting to find the bright side of a community bathroom, getting used to people forgetting their names, and feeling bad as they forgot everyone else’s.

Ok, most of us have lived with the same people all of our lives—our families. Hard as that may have been for some, they were used to it. The dorm living experience gives all of us the opportunity to bond with a complete stranger who we will be waking up in the same room with for the next nine months. We had to become sudden friends with this person regardless because they would be a constant companion.

If that was not enough pressure, everyone had heard horror stories. The stories of what your third cousin’s best friend’s roommate was like—we all know of at least one. Once move-in day was over and each roommate had warmed up to the other...for the most part...the first night in the dorm happened. This meant the first run-in with a community bathroom. Two community bathroom mistakes that we learned about: looking at the drain, and the classic leaving your key in the room so that you can be locked out while in a towel.

It was a crazy orientation week. There were good moments, bad moments, and lots of fun in between. After all of the speeches we’ve heard about how special the class of 2015 is and how glad we should be now that we’re home, all I can really say is in four years we leave—let’s make the most of it.



LIFT

plore the campus.

“Even my own colleagues [can be seen outside on campus more], I meet them out there daily,” Kief said. Over the past few weeks students have embraced the Walk as an easier path to get from one side of campus to the other while faculty members and their families can be seen enjoying the last few days of Indian summer by walking around the new additions to campus.

In addition to being an impressive sight, the Walk also features some more functional benefits for campus. Along the theme of accessibility, Bobby noted, “The granite walk is gently sloping, and includes areas for rest, and that’s really important.

“These little things don’t interrupt the aesthetics on campus, but are really important for someone that needs to access that kind of support.”

The Walk will also serve to improve of the puddling of water on campus pathways during heavy rain, yet another small detail we may not fully appreciate in our every day rush around campus.

As was laid out in the 2023 Mas-

ter Plan, the Walk embodies a new tradition for the campus as a part of the graduation ceremony and celebration.

“It was neat to be the first class to walk on part of the path. I definitely think it’s good to spruce up the south end of campus to better connect the Fieldhouse as well as the Weyerhaeuser Hall,” one Class of 2011 alumna, Alayna Schoblaske, said of her graduation experience. The praise comes in spite of the unfinished state of the walk at the time of her graduation in May.

With the construction of the Commencement Walk and Events Lawn come a number of misconceptions throughout the community; the completion of the Walk as a part of the renovations this summer was unexpected to some, while others question the value of such an extravagant addition.

“The walk really didn’t need to be redone; the [old] walks were fine,” Soderstrom said. “Campus was united via [the] path taken down South Hall. I think it’s nice, I think its pretty, I don’t think it was strictly neces-

sary.”

While the necessity of the pathway renovations to campus are not clear, the improvements seem to be generally well received by the community.

Some frustration also arises from the effects of the construction that occurred over the summer on the Walk and Events Lawn. The people that bore the brunt of the discomfort were those who spent their summer working in and around the university. Because of the construction, much of central campus was closed off, causing tremendous discomfort for those traversing the area.

“I think Facilities did a great job [during the closure],” Jack Todd, a junior who spent the summer working with Facilities through the construction, said. Todd cited communications between the university’s team in Facilities and the construction crew as one of the major frustrations of the process.

“There was not a single day I was not impressed with the work Facilities did,” Todd said.

Kief noted that “the biggest impact

[of the construction] was the closing of the area around the walk between the library to the field house, which was fenced off all summer long.”

While those who spent their summer around Puget Sound have cited their frustration as one of the biggest disappointments regarding the Walk, its construction has clearly encouraged tremendous campus activity over recent weeks as members of the Tacoma and Puget Sound community use it to explore the new additions.

Even after a busy summer like this one, when Facilities worked around the clock to completely renovate campus, Kief and the steering committee are already getting ready for the next phase of improvements. The new projects include further improvements to the Fitness Center, such as a new aquatic facility, and a new residence hall to be built in what was the South Hall parking lot, slated for completion by Fall 2012.

Kief does not show any signs of slowing down either.

“To me we keep things rolling. Our role here is to keep it moving

forward, and it’s all wonderful progress for the university,” he said.

“It enhances the [natural] environment; it enhances the teaching environment, it really brings the university up to the next level. We’re already there from the teaching part of it and the faculty part of it, but we need to be up there from the facilities side, and that’s what we’re doing. I have an amazing crew here in the department, and they take a lot of care and a lot of passion in what they do, and you can see that.”

The university and all the dedicated people involved did a remarkable job this summer, transforming our campus in the blink of an eye. The changes around campus are amazingly impressive, and overall the student body, faculty and university community have embraced the new additions wholeheartedly. While there is no doubt that there will always be room for improvement as our community grows and changes, the 2011 fall term has gotten off to a great start with a new and improved campus.

Summer research generates buzz on campus

By DANI SAGE

All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, but no one said anything about this to the dedicated group of Puget Sound students who spent their summer doing research. Many traveled across the world to complete their studies while others were able to work at Puget Sound or even from their own homes. Regardless of the location, these students were able to explore various topics and delve deeper into the mysteries and controversies that arose during their summer research.

It’s hard to imagine what it might be like to visit a third-world country, but Daniel Parecki didn’t have to imagine. During his summer, he travelled to India in order to study the healthcare system.

After touring the country for a few days, he finally arrived in Dharamsala. From then on, he began his research by visiting a local hospital, talking with doctors and patients alike, and going to see a medical college. Through his research, he was able to discover the problems plaguing the health care system in India and how far behind it is compared to the West. Research in a foreign country is never without its distractions and quirks—Parecki met some interesting people in the mountains who raised sheep and also witnessed such sights as a cow resting in a heap of garbage. It is safe to say that it was an experience he will not soon forget.

The classic line “Remember, remember, the fifth of November,” from “V for Vendetta” is brought to



Pursuit of knowledge: Students share what they discovered during their summer research projects in a poster symposium.

mind when hearing about Jessica Spevak’s research topic. Spevak spent her summer investigating the complexities that followed the assassination attempt of King James I, whether the country was truly united against the Catholic populace during that time and how the English developed their national identity.

She examined how the English population perceived the event and compared it to how it is perceived today. Her studies led her to ASU and she was able to access some of the most interesting and detailed information regarding England during

the rule of King James I.

Emotion pervades the human experience every day and yet we hardly seem to analyze exactly what we see when we look at a person’s face, at least consciously. During the summer, Madeline Werhane set up a complex series of tests that explored how neurons in the human brain recognize emotions. She asked Puget Sound students to participate in her study.

Using a series of videos and an electroencephalogram, she and another student were able to measure the brain activity of the participating

students. They then analyzed how those students were able to match emotions and faces. Although not included in her presentation, she said there was more research to be done with mimicry and how a person’s ability to match emotions would be affected if they were not allowed to mimic that emotion. This in-depth study will take Werhane far beyond her research from the summer.

As for Preston Van Buren, his interest in bees began long before he decided to use them in his summer research. From the moment in high school when a bee landed on his arm, he has since become the vice president of the beekeeping club at Puget Sound and used the black-and-yellow insects to study whether they would be able to discriminate between male and female mice urine.

Despite flighty complications which included a rogue bee and a trip to the hospital after being stung, Van Buren was satisfied with his project. The implications of his research are fascinating and could even “bee” used for military operations, such as training bees to detect mines in a minefield.

These students are only a fraction of those who gave up their summer for the universal thirst for knowledge that most college students feel during the school year. The work they have done in this case has not made them dull, but instead has enhanced their learning experience and allowed them to explore places and subjects that are meaningful. In many ways, their hard work was also their play.

SHELVES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

on the curb where you can take it for free.

You may even be able to salvage all of the lumber you need from an old armoire.

Next up the budget ladder is the Habitat for Humanity ReStore located in downtown Tacoma. This store sells salvaged building materials, which is a wallet- and earth-friendly option. No guarantees that they will have what you need for your Taj Mashelf aspirations, though.

For the high rollers, a large box store such as Lowe’s or Home Depot will have everything you need for shelf construction.

I would recommend Home Depot, as their lumber is Forest Stewardship Council certified, meaning that it comes from sustainable sources.

By using a prefabricated piece of wood intended for a stair step, as well as two metal L-brackets, a simple shelf with a beveled (rounded) edge can be bought for around \$20, including mounting hardware.

Finally, for a more local (read: expensive) option, try Grey’s Lumber on Sixth Avenue between “A Row of Bars” and “Another Row of Bars.”

While there, be sure to ask for the “college plumbing pack:” a funnel, two hose clamps, a short length of tubing and a 3/4-inch check valve. Use your imagination to put together a “social release valve!”

As for the shelf design, I’ll leave that up to you. Well, you and Google.

Homecoming game ends in upset for Loggers

By STEPHEN HAMWAY

The Loggers got off to a great start in their game on Saturday, Sept. 17 against Sewanee College, but turnovers and shoddy defense spoiled a great opportunity for the team to pick up its first win of the young season, as they lost 34-23. The Loggers started off strong, travelling 60 yards in 14 plays on their opening drive, eventually settling for a 27-yard field goal by freshman Everett West (Anaheim, Calif.). After an exchange of turnovers on downs, the Loggers' offense struck again at the end of the first quarter, as they went 76 yards on nine plays, eventually culminating with an 11-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback George Ka'ai (Aiea, Hawai'i) to junior Ross Zuhl (Issaquah, Wash.). The pass, an 11-yard fade to the near left corner of the end zone that Zuhl leapt over the Tiger defender to corral, gave the Loggers a 10-0 lead as time expired in the first quarter.

However, the good times came to a screeching halt for the Loggers in the second, as the Tigers moved the ball down the field on six plays, shaking off a near lost fumble to pull within three points on a five-yard run by senior Zeke Wilson (Snellville, Ga.). The Loggers had several chances to put some distance between themselves and Sewanee, but failed to convert. After a blocked punt that gave the Loggers possession on the Tigers'



Fighting Tough: The Loggers put up a great fight during the Homecoming football game but failed to recover ground lost early in the game.

29-yard-line, Ka'ai underthrew a pass to the end-zone, allowing it to be intercepted. Additionally, after another Tiger touchdown, the Loggers had a chance to get a field goal at the end of the first half, but West's field goal attempt was blocked.

Trailing 14-10 at the half, the Loggers saw things go from bad to worse in the third quarter. The Tigers took

the opening kickoff and marched down the field, going 66 yards on a drive that culminated with another short touchdown run by Wilson. On the very next play from scrimmage, Ka'ai, under pressure, lobbed up a pass that Sewanee defensive lineman Alex Head stepped in front of. Head hustled down the field, returning the interception 54 yards for a touchdown.

And after a three and out by the Logger offense, the Tigers converted several long passes en route to another touchdown that capped off Sewanee's scoring onslaught and put them comfortably ahead at 34-10.

The Loggers eventual rally was too little and came too late. Ka'ai led the team on a couple scoring drives and was able to make the final score com-

petitive, but the team turned the ball over on downs with 3:48 left in the fourth, and they were unable to get the ball back.

The defense was the primary culprit for the Loggers, yielding 418 yards to the Tiger offense. The run defense couldn't get Sewanee's offense off of the field, allowing 218 yards on an astonishing 60 carries, as the Tigers

SEE FOOTBALL page 10

Women's soccer on a hot streak



Logger Domination: The women's soccer team proves that change can be a good thing.

By ANTHEA AASEN

The Women's Soccer team has been on a hot streak since their opening loss to Cal Lutheran. In the past two away games, the Loggers have outscored their opponents 4-2 and have propelled some young studs into the spotlight. Breakout freshman forward Robin Vieira (Seattle, Wash.) has been on a scoring rally, "making her mark" in all of the Loggers' past three games, two of which were game-winning shots.

Vieira takes the challenge of being a freshman like a true competitor. "Coming on to an entirely new squad, I got a chance to prove something to myself, my teammates and my coaches. It was a fresh, new start, and I had nothing to lose. When I began my first game as starter, I wasn't really scared or nervous, just kind of numb. I guess this worked towards my advantage, because I was able to convert all that extra energy to excitement!"

However, as one might expect her transition from playing soccer at the high school level to the playing at the collegiate level was a tough one, "It's definitely not easy to transition from high school to college, get good grades, maintain a good social life, stay healthy and succeed in sports. I'm still facing this challenge, and probably will be for a long while, however, each day I try to learn from my mistakes, and pull it together for a good day. One thing that has helped me is to stay positive about everything. Always look on the bright side, and don't let yourself get down. When I feel too stressed or busy, I give myself a little break for however long I can afford at that time. Sometimes its five minutes, other times it's an hour. but it's important to have down time. Our body is not a machine. We have to nurture it in order to perform and succeed."

On Sept. 17 the women's team was again a dominating force in the conference. In their game against the

Willamette Bearcats, the Loggers crushed their competition 4-0. With a leadoff goal by sophomore Hannah Hawkins (Everett, Wash.) in the 21st minute and then an impressive hat-trick performance by senior Christine Isabella (Salt Lake City, Utah), the Loggers outshot the Bearcats 26-4. In goal the Loggers split time between sophomore Casey Thayer (Boulder, Colo.) and new comer, sophomore Kara Merfeld (Bellingham, Wash.).

However, a tough loss on Sept. 18 showed that even the best teams can be beaten. The Linfield Wildcats got the best of the Loggers putting two past Thayer. The Loggers retaliated with senior Mikaela Freeman (Alameda, Calif.) scoring a goal late in the second half, but the Loggers could not overcome the goal deficit. This is the second loss of the season for the Loggers.

Next week the Loggers (3-2-0) take on Whitman (3-3-0) and Whitworth in Eastern Washington (1-3-1).

Rugby looks ahead after promising season

By ANGEL JOHNSON

It could be surprising to many to find out Puget Sound's largest sports club on campus is the men's Rugby Club. This club has been around campus since the 60s, but last season it had its true start. Last season, the club went to the playoffs for the first time in Puget Sound history.

A few years earlier, the Rugby Club was struggling from the lack of player commitment; only about eight players would show up to practices and the club would have to borrow other players in order to field a team for their matches. This year, the Rugby Club has between 40 and 50 men show up to each practice.

When asked about last season, junior rugby player Francis Dupar (Belluve, Wash.) said, "We did well and took a disorganized team turned it into an organized team, won some games and finally went to the playoffs." They lost in the playoffs, but it was a victory itself that they made it there. "When we put more into the club, we were able to get more out of it and that showed through our season," captain Gavin Beaudry (Baghdad, Ariz.) said.

The Puget Sound rugby team is currently ranked 20th in the country for small college rugby, so they are expected to do great things this season.

Sophomore and Rugby Club president James Oppenheimer (Seattle, Wash.) said, "We have a lot of new members, a lot of experience and a lot of players, so this year is extremely promising."

Beaudry and Dupar added, "We have our sights on the national title and are expecting to at least win the Pacific Northwest title. We have the potential to win the national title, and more than anything we are seeking national recognition for Puget Sound rugby."

Junior rugby player Cole Mcilvaine (Bellingham, Wash.) described rugby as having an "atmosphere that gives the fans a level of being involved." It is a game that many people have not seen and that is what makes it so exciting. The Rugby Club's potential this year is immense, especially since they will be 11 eleven of their 15 starters.

This is definitely a club that people should watch for and support this year, since they will be doing great things and deserve notoriety. Their first official match is Oct. 1 against Northwest University.

Women's Soccer Recap

Sept. 5 vs. Cal Lutheran:	L 2-1
Sept. 10 @ Chapman:	W 2-1
Sept. 11 @ UC Santa Cruz:	W 2-1
Sept. 17 vs. Willamette:	W 4-0
Sept. 18 vs. Linfield:	L 2-1
Next Game: Sat. 24 @ Whitworth	

Impressive Win: The team showed true skill on the field, closing down the opposition with force.



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Hey Yous that explicitly refer
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HEY YOU, Red mutton
chops. I love your red mutton
chops. What do you say to a red
BEARD?

HEY YOU, Brooms > leaf
blowers.

HEY YOU, How about putting
some more bike racks outside
the library? That ramp is getting
kinda crowded.

HEY YOU, sassy bio major:
you can play the flute, but can
you play the organ?

HEY YOU, S.U.B., thanks for
making awesome food all of a
sudden.

HEY YOU, Have a vagina?
Does your vagina ride a bike?
Come to WOMEN'S BIKE
NIGHT at 2nd Cycle tomorrow
(Saturday) at 5 p.m. to learn
about bicycle maintenance and
meet other nice people with
vaginas who like to ride bikes!
2ndcycle.org for more informa-
tion, or find us on Facebook.

OYE USTED, El pueblo unido
no será vencido!

HEY YOU, why all of the sud-
den are there no Hey Yous? Are
people now being upfront about
their interpersonal problems
and sexual desires? –the ed.

HEY YOU, I am nothing. I
will never be anything. I cannot
even desire to be anything. Bar
that, I have all the dreams of the
world within me.

HEY YOU, Do not go gentle
into that good night. Rage, rage
at the MEOW house tonight.

HEY YOU, those dinosaur
noises you make ain't that funny.

ACHTUNG, was ist das Wet-
ter heute?

HEY YOU, cellists, you're all
pretty chell.

HEY YOU, Fountain. Sorry
about last night, but coffee is a
diuretic.

HEY YOU, Fancy-pants art
majors: Newton's binomial is ev-
ery bit as beautiful as the Venus
de Milo. The catch is that few

people notice it.

HEY YOU, No, I will not go
f*** myself! That's why I asked
you!

HEY YOU, Tonight, I can
write the saddest lines. / I can
write for example: my kitty kat/
just died and now im supz-sad
:-(

HEY YOU, If the slipknot
wasn't tight enough, it means
you weren't ready to go.

HEY YOU, Fellow Hot Boy
Thugs, Saturday night was pretty
'tight', no? HBTG fo' life!

HEY YOU, If Chali 2na had
an obesity problem, would he be
Chali 3na?

HEY YOU, Isn't a 'communist
individual' sorta oxymoronic?

THE HAPPY TRAIL: A Weekly Sex Column

Taking time for sexual inventory: *Tips for the new year*

By SUZY SPONGEWORTHY

Like the annual turning of
a new calendar year every
Jan. 1, it is high time to toast
to a new year—school year,
that is.

In keeping with the spirit of
such a light-hearted holiday,
it only seems fitting to have a
contemplative moment to review,
reflect and perhaps even come up
with some resolutions for these
two upcoming semesters.

Let's face it: not all events with
a romantic or sexual nature (or
the funky gray area in between the
two) go peachy keen.

Things get messy. Uncontrollable
situations spring up (sometimes
literally). S*** happens.

Before delving into the dark
depths of one's emotional past,
make sure to stay positive.

*Challenge yourself to
be more honest with
yourself and direct with
others.*

What has happened has
happened and there is no use
beating yourself up (a more
productive activity would be to
switch the "up" to "off").

If an event is too fresh it is even
more important to take note and
give yourself some time to deal 'n
heal.

Honestly, there have been times
that I have made a complete and
utter ass of myself and wanted to
crawl into a hole, never to resurface
again. But after some therapy with
fuzzy slippers and my two main
men, Ben and Jerry, I have risen
from the depths of despair.

Common advice given is that
"the best way to get over someone
is to get somewhere else." As I have
shamelessly outlined above, I have
taken this advice and felt at least
300 times worse.

Too often we rush into new
adventures or busy ourselves with
other avenues of life without fully
dealing with the emotions and

unresolved feelings.

Taking the time to reconcile past
love/lust low points allows a clean
palette from which to approach
the semester.

What went wrong? What can be
learned from the unraveling?

A mistake is not a mistake if
something can be learned from it.

After all of that, here's the fun
part. Set new goals and challenges
for yourself. Even if your Dec. 31
resolutions flopped, now is your
chance to plan and enact change.
Do you want to meet more people?

Assess what type of people you
want to meet and think of where
they would be. Challenge yourself
to be more honest with yourself
and direct with others.

Think of what has not worked
in the past. Have things ended
horribly when you've moved too
fast? Set a rule for yourself that
perhaps you are going to wait until
a second hangout until you put
out.

Have your insecurities about
your body or sexual ability tainted
past intimate experiences? Step
one is to masturbate, masturbate,
masturbate. But also take some
time to explore yourself and work
through your issues.

Confide in a friend, of the same
or opposite sex depending on the
issue. Chances are you will find
out that what you think is a deal-
breaker is not even a deal at all, let
alone a big one.

Though I feel quite content with
my sexual ducks in a row at the
moment, I resolve to make this
sex column as informative and as
entertaining as possible.

The idea is to empower, not to
shame. The more conversation and
exposure taboo topics get, the less
scandalous and shame-inducing
they seem.

New love/lust interests, by
nature, are usually unexpected, so
relax and be excited for what will
unfold (or undress).

This year is full of opportunity for
sexcapades and personal growth
alike, so pop open the bubbly
(sparkling juice for you minors
cheesy wink) and embrace it.

By ANNA FAPMAN

On this hallowed day of the
birth of The Happy Trail, I want to
celebrate beginnings.

Dirty beginnings.

Because you, reader, have not
been sexual since the moment your
arm accidentally brushed against a
breast on the school bus and you
had to hold a textbook at waist-
level for the rest of the ride home.
You have not been sexual since the
moment you pressed your sweaty
lips against another's in the band
room and tasted Burt's Bees and
trombone mouthpiece.

You were born sexual—to tell
you the truth, you were probably
diddling yourself in the womb, says
the Electronic Journal of Human
Sexuality. Science has observed
boners, of both the man and lady
variety, as early as in utero.

And because you were born with
it, baby, I can today, in this humble
sex section, say things like dick.
Pussy. Boning. Cincinnati bowtie.
And not even feel embarrassed
about it. Why should I? The dudes
fist-bumping in your sixth-grade
sex ed class sure weren't. And those

little boogers were Googling that
s***.

While your mama may have
claimed otherwise, sex isn't
naughty; it's natural, because
younger you was not you minus
sex.

It was you plus weird tingly
sensations, you plus how good it
felt to rub against the corner of that
couch, you plus how you would
never get invited to the Johnsons'
again because you wouldn't stop
humping their pillow at that one
sleepover.

Personally, I was that five-year-
old who always wanted to be the
prisoner when we played Cops and
Robbers. That frayed yellow jump
rope they'd tie around my wrists
was my weakness, the reason I
never ran away from the bad guys
fast enough.

One hearty dose of pubescence
later and here I am, healthy bondage
fetish and all. Healthy, because it
came from a place of imagination
and desire, from that fleeting
childhood minute before society
told you what was "naughty."

The point is: you were not as pure
as freshly driven snow until you

became freshly plowed.

Too many people view the
development of sexuality like the
plot of a bad porno: you're rapidly
chatting with, say, your English
professor, and suddenly you're
humping frantically on the desk
with a copy of Moby Dick stuffed
in your mouth. No story arc. From
zero to bone in 10 seconds flat.
From innocent to horny in one
growth spurt.

Fact: real life has character
development.

You were all little snout-nosed
sinners, whether you realized it or
not.

And it's not healthy for anyone
to consider youth the negation
of sexuality. Let's appreciate and
explore our roots, and grow from
our experiences.

Yes, even that one where you got
felt up for the first time in the back
of the middle school dance. Even
that, embarrassing as it was for
13-year-old you, formed you into
the sexual being you are today.

The Happy Trail is hoping to help
you continue down your path of
self-discovery, whatever it may be.
Gosh, I got a little teary-eyed there.
Sorry to get all cheesy on you.

Wang. Cooter.

That's better.

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Girls' album addresses matters of the heart

By SAMI ROSS

If you approach Girls' sophomore LP looking for an album riddled with metaphors about sex, drugs and singer-songwriter Christopher Owens' tumultuous childhood in the Children of God cult, then you should look elsewhere.

"Father, Son, Holy Ghost" is a brilliant rock album that is all about matters of the heart. Among familiar classic rock arrangements, Owens has worked with fellow band member Chet White to create a story about the need for love and how disenchanting the journey to find it can be.

The album kicks off with the upbeat "Honey Bunny." In his Elvis Costello-esque croon, Owens reassures himself that, "I know you're somewhere and nothing's ever gonna phase me, you'll look at me and know I'm the one and you will love me." Owens tries to convince himself that someone out there will love him, but the foundations of that belief are shaken by the tracks that follow.

Whereas "Honey Bunny" was a testament to Owens' naivety, "Alex" aids the album's transition into more serious material. With a musical arrangement that starts off as fuzzy rock, before shifting into jangly indie pop-rock, and lyrics that move from apathetic to needy, this track reveals Owens' intentions.

With an abrupt shift in tone, Girls throws the listeners for a loop with a dizzyingly dark rock and roll jam, "Die." Be warned, head banging may

occur when Owens repeats over and over, "We're all gonna die, all gonna die, all gonna die."

"Saying I Love You" and "My Ma," reflect Owens' struggle to make sense of his loneliness.

In "My Ma," Owens moans, "I want to see the light of love, I'm looking for meaning in my life." It is a treat for listeners when Owens' lyrics are personal. When he speaks to himself, versus a broad audience, the words are truly powerful.

"Vomit" is the crown jewel of this record. Wedged in the middle of the album, it showcases how Girls has developed as a band, and it secures their spot amongst today's most serious musicians. He pushes his voice into something softer than it has been before, and as his need for love grows, the music epically swells with it.

"Just a Song," "Magic," and especially the eight-minute long track, "Forgiveness," represent a clear transition from the pathetically hopeless person represented in the songs before "Vomit."

With "Forgiveness," Owens reminds the listeners, and himself, that "Nothing's gonna get any better if you don't have a little hope." "Love like a River" and "Jamie Marie" are the last two tracks of the album and both tunes express Owens' acceptance with lost love. His heart is still left unsatisfied, but even he admits in "Jamie Marie" that, "You know they say it's better to have loved and to lose it, than to never ever know it."

Girls is on tour and will be playing the Neptune Theater in Seattle on Oct. 5.

Masa's happy hour a treat

By MICHELLE CURRY

Masa, located at 2811 Sixth Ave. offers happy hour all day Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, of which we gladly took advantage.

Only two weeks into the school year, my 21st birthday arrived just in time for de-stressing and the chance to experience the happy hour drinks and small plates.

Service, with only two bar staff, was surprisingly prompt. Water was bought, identification checked, chips and salsa served and food/drink orders were taken all within 10 minutes of our arrival.

We munched on perfectly salted and greased corn chips paired with mild salsa and our appetites were appeased until our appetizers arrived. The staff was also very accommodating to our dining companion with food allergies and brought plain tortillas free of charge for her to enjoy instead of the corn chips.

The food paired perfectly with our drinks; my mushroom quesadilla was packed with sweet caramelized onions, a Mexican cheese blend, and button mushrooms. Sour cream was drizzled lightly atop the quesadilla and fresh salsa and guacamole accompanied the dish on the side.

If a quesadilla is not what you have in mind when you go out for your next happy hour at Masa, they also offer different flatbread varieties for \$4.29, snacks to share, such as macaroni and cheese, empanadas, and nachos ranging in price from \$4.79 to \$5.99 and tacos. Two tacos with beef, chicken, and pork in smoked



ASUPS Photo Services/Hattie Lindsley

Drinks: Happy hours are a cheap and fun way to destress.

or non smoked forms are offered at happy hour for \$3.29.

The happy hour drink prices are reasonable especially if you compare it to that latte you indulge in everyday from Starbucks.

Traditional Margaritas are the most expensive at \$5.50, but will not put a large dent in your wallet if you stick to one. The tequila was smooth, and I would recommend trying it at least once on the rocks.

The well drinks at \$4.50 were also mixed well; our group sampled the classic Gin and Tonic and a Vodka and Cranberry, both of which were also mixed well by the bartender. House wine is available for \$4.25

and a draft beer is only \$3.25.

On a Tuesday night Masa was not the place to be, as is normally the case on weekends, but the high quality service and reasonable drink prices make for an enjoyable and low-key evening to spend with friends.

Masa's happy hour may be of old news to you seasoned bar hoppers, but for juniors and seniors on the verge of turning 21, Masa is worth a stop.

Masa's "Most Happy Hours in Town" occur Wednesday through Saturday, 2:30-6:00 p.m., and all day Sunday through Tuesday.

Ke\$ha's Get \$leazy tour: all things outrageous and illicit

By LEAH WEITZ

On the evening of Saturday, Sept. 10, the streets of downtown Seattle teemed with young women dressed in fishnets, ripped t-shirts and sparkling heels. The crowd was all headed in one direction: to the "Get \$leazy Tour" in Washington for one night only at the WaMu Theater.

The tour, headlined by the chart-topping, glitter-soused Ke\$ha, also featured the well-known "party-rock" group LMFAO and a relatively unheard of hip-hop duo called Spank Rock.

The commonality between the three acts was a proud disregard of societal convention in favor of all things sexual, illicit and outrageous.

Opening act Spank Rock, hailing from Baltimore, featured a DJ and a rapper. The rapper, Naeem Juwan, while unknown to the vast majority of the crowd, managed to work the mosh pit into a considerable fervor with hilariously obscene lyrics and a similar electronic backing track style to the highly anticipated following act, LMFAO.

By the end of Spank Rock's act, members of the crowd were heard wondering aloud about how to obtain their album; upon making an appearance outside of the venue after the concert, Juwan was swamped by new fans.

The next group, LMFAO, was met with near hysteria from the crowd. After beginning with their album opener "Rock the Beat II," the group performed a series of top-40 hits that they have garnered from their past two albums, *Party Rock Anthem* and the ironically titled *Sorry For Party Rocking*. The hit numbers included "Shots," "I'm In Miami B*tch" and "Party Rock Anthem," and were all met with roars and flailing limbs of the wildly enthusiastic variety.

The performance featured an excess of leopard print, beer funnels, speedos, neon, inflatable zebras and bouncing afros, all backed by an extremely adept troupe of Asian dancers.

The act featured only one female dancer, and the members of LMFAO objectified the male body as equally if not more so than that of the female dancer.

One memorable moment saw the entire male ensemble sporting speedos, rapidly gyrating their hips to the lyric "wobble wobble wobble wobble, yeah" during the song "Sexy And I Know It."

By the time that the headlining act finally arrived on stage in her diamond encrusted bodysuit, the crowd was impossibly riled up.

Sporting bright blue makeup and gobs of glitter splashed across her arms and face, the pop star sang

about sex, alcohol and in the occasional softer moment, love-but those sentimental moments were few and far between, and the performance more often leaned in the direction of glitter cannons, animalistic dance moves and dinosaur-shaped balloons.

In one highly memorable moment, Ke\$ha called a man in the crowd up on stage, duct taped him to a chair and straddled his neck with her thighs while she sang a song instructing him to "grow a pair," whilst a man in a massive penis costume jumped around in the back.

The act was most notable for this delightfully absurd raunchiness—Ke\$ha's vocals, while mostly fair, were often overshadowed by background singers in favor of a focus on her dancing, smirking, glitter-throwing, beer-drinking and overall partying hard.

While Ke\$ha interacted notably less with the crowd than the prior two acts and featured much more choreography as opposed to getting up close with the audience, the show was undeniably well done.

Whilst Ke\$ha may claim to be an irresponsible, whiskey-swiggling, man-eating maniac, she clearly manages to maintain at least enough responsibility to put on a damn good show.

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Annual Town Crier kicks off Puget Sound theater

By MOLLY BROWN

The “town crier” will speak again Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m., kicking off the annual Town Crier Speaks festival. Six student-written plays will be performed in Rausch Auditorium Oct. 6, 7 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. Students are given ample chance to attend this student-run festival.

Town Crier is in association with Student Theatre Productions (STP) and is entirely student-produced. The Town Crier has proven to be a good production for all levels of experience and all years to get involved.

Freshman director Maddie Faigel provides a good example of this.

“It’s all overwhelming, but it is a chance to be in charge. Directing is a head start to get my foot in the door,” Faigel said.

The Town Crier lends itself to a tight knit community of directors, producers and actors.

“It was interesting coming in as the only freshman into a group of best friends. It is a great community,” Faigel said, commenting on her experience after entering her first Town Crier meeting.

Freshmen are given an opportunity to interact on a fun and

friendly level with upperclassmen and begin their participation in the theater community. Upperclassmen are able to showcase their ability or attempt something they never have before.

Within each category of writers, directors and actors there is always someone who has never been involved in one capacity or another.

Every year the festival allows someone to expand out of his or her normal comfort zone.

Faigel chose her piece just for that reason. She hoped to move away from what she was comfortable with in her theater experience.

“I wanted something challenging to direct,” Faigel said, reflecting on why she chose “The Answer,” a play written by student Ben Christie, who is also directing this year.

Town Crier is not only a great experience for those involved, but also it promises to be a great one for those who attend.

Audiences are ensured a dynamic variety of shows within the festival.

The plays’ tones range from dark comedy to all-out drama, allowing each audience member to run the gambit of emotions while being thoroughly entertained.



Cast of Characters: A range of students participated in this year’s Town Crier Speaks festival.

“It’s good for the audience member with a short attention span,” Faigel said.

With six short plays to run through every performance, the

audience can be easily engaged with the consistent change of pace throughout the show.

The Town Crier is one of the best ways to start out this year’s

theater season.

It is geared equally toward those who are not familiar with theater and those who live for it.

A COLLAGE OF SOUNDS



School of Music Showcase: Friday saw a student-faculty collaboration for the School of Music’s Showcase, Collage, which featured performances from members of all departments of the music school. The concert was conducted seamlessly, with one piece moving straight into the next.

Above: A jazz combo, with Dr. Rob Hutchinson, performed standard jazz literature.

Below: Part of a string octet, with professors Tim Christie and Dr. Maria Sampen, who performed a Mendelssohn piece.



Rock of Ages provides intellectual entertainment for the masses

By WALT MITCHELL

It is possible, however unlikely, that as the semester progresses an all-too-familiar feeling of B.A. bitterness will begin to take root, a cynicism that inspires daydreams of traveling back in time to squash those over-hyped icons of art, philosophy and science with something very, very heavy—a boulder, maybe.

If this is beginning to sound familiar you will be delighted to hear that independent game developer ACE Team has recreated this fantasy in their imaginative, Aug. 31 release, “Rock of Ages,” a game of heavy things and suddenly flat historical figures.

Sisyphus—that famed king of Greek mythology who, if Classics majors will forgive my paraphrasing, was condemned to roll a rock up a hill forever—takes his fate into his own calloused hands and, strangely expressive boulder at his side, escapes the Underworld to take art history by storm.

What follows is a light-hearted “Super Monkey Ball/Tower Defense” hybrid, a satisfying race from ancient Greece to Napoleonic France that sports a cerebral sense of humor and plenty of castle smashing.

Matches consist of somewhat imbalanced phases of attack and defense: players hurriedly build up their own defenses before rolling their respective big rocks down opposite slopes of a symmetrical map, veering past or blasting through elaborate resistance to raze the enemy gates and end the

round with a squish.

Defensive rounds give the impression of tactical depth (particularly as later levels grow intricate and diverse) but the brevity of set-up time restricts any serious strategy, feeling wasteful in the end. It really is tragic: defensive units are colorful and inventive, including tower-bearing mammoths, balloon-buoyed airships and cow-powered wind turbines.

If nothing else, defensive units are great fun for your charging boulder. On your way to reduce Louis XIV to a fine paste, expect to waste plenty of time demolishing trebuchets and wrecking flimsy towers.

Thoughtfully, R.o.A. rewards your cartoony sadism with gold—use it to arm your boulder with spikes or flames to up the anarchy. It turns out that sending massive stones screaming downhill has a certain universal appeal.

But while core gameplay lends the game its heft, it is almost certainly the pleasantly ridiculous treatment of dry subject matter that transforms R.o.A. from an enjoyable distraction into a memorable diamond in the rough.

Cultural context informs the aesthetics of every level, and it is done so effortlessly that R.o.A. can afford to mess around a bit, producing a tone perfectly conducive to era-appropriate wit.

The game’s humor really clicked with me during a battle with a gargantuan incarnation of Michelangelo’s David (hint—go for the groin).

Encounters with Europe’s cultural luminaries are strung together by a series of animated

shorts that closely resemble Terry Gilliam’s work for *Monty Python*—perhaps too closely.

Regardless, seeing the deified superstars of history speak gibberish, prance about and be flattened by immense bits of granite is pure pleasure—for this simpleton critic, at least.

It is not all nonsense and violence, though: ACE is acutely aware of R.o.A.’s position between high and low culture and gleefully toys with the resulting tension, tipping its cap to a handful of pseudo-historical pop-culture gems—Sisyphus goes toe-to-toe with 300’s Leonidas, and Gandalf the Grey makes a tragic cameo—while acknowledging its own role as cheeky cultural mediator with a subtle allusion to MST3k in the main menu.

ACE even manages to cash in on a couple trendy gaming tropes: Leonardo da Vinci stars in a painfully meta, Matrix-inspired commentary on the hapless role of the protagonist (à la Bioshock), and the resurgence of Reason at the dawn of the Enlightenment is embodied, hilariously, by the rampaging zombies of Plato and Aristotle—*Dead Island*, eat your rotting heart out.

The existence of “Rock of Ages” should “be celebrated,” Ludwig Kietzmann of Joystiq said, and he’s got the right idea—the creative work done by indie games in legitimizing the medium is invaluable, and minor technical imbalances are easy to ignore in the face of such vividly rendered imagination.

Find trailers at atlus.com/rockofages; the game itself is available for PC and Xbox Arcade.